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**Examiner:**

**Atty. Docket: B154-26969**

**For: Surfactant-Polymer Composition \$  
for Substantially Solid-Free Water \$  
Based Drilling, Drill-in and \$  
Completion Fluids \$**

Before publication of the application in this case, Applicant requests that the attached formal drawings be entered, that claims 1-195 be cancelled, and that the following new claims be added:

1 196. (New) A water-based drilling fluid comprising:  
2 an aqueous base;  
3 a quantity of water soluble polymer; and,  
4 an amount of surfactant in association with said water soluble polymer;  
5 wherein said quantity, said amount, and said association provide said water  
6 soluble polymer with effective rheology and fluid loss control properties  
7 comprising low shear rate viscosity.

1 197. (New) The water-based drilling fluid of claim 196 wherein said low shear  
2 rate viscosity comprises about 70,000 cP or more upon exposure to 0.3 rpm.

**TC 1700**